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Note.

SUBMITTED BY SIR MIRZA M. ISMAIL, DEWAN OF MYSORE, TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY, LORD WILLINGDON, IN MAY 1931.

Mysore pays an annual subsidy of Rs. 24½ lakhs to the British Government. It used to be Rs. 35 lakhs; a reduction of Rs. 10½ lakhs was made three years ago as a mark of appreciation of its good administration. Our prayer now is that a further reduction of at least Rs. 14½ lakhs may be made immediately, if total remission is not possible. Mysore would be still paying Rs. 10 lakhs; even then, she would be paying the largest tribute.

The request is made both on grounds of practical necessity and sentiment. Need for relief is most urgent and imperative. There has been a serious drop in revenue (Rs. 50 lakhs) in current year—next year's prospects seem no less dismal. Help of Government of India at this juncture would have a tremendous effect in the State, and would be appreciated more highly than if it came later, as it is more than likely to do.

Government of India is, no doubt, in such serious financial difficulties itself, that it would have to consider seriously the loss of even Rs. 14½ lakhs. But the gain to the State would be so enormous compared to the loss to the Government of India that it seems permissible to hope that the latter would be generous enough to oblige the State at such a critical time.

The subsidy is bound to disappear as such in a year or 18 months when the new Constitution comes into operation. The Government of India do not, therefore, stand to lose more than Rs. 14½ or Rs. 20 lakhs. But they would have left an indelible impression on the minds of the Maharaja and his subjects.

This appeal is made to a Viceroy who is a great and good friend of the State. It would be a most appropriate, as it would be a particularly gracious, act of friendship and generosity on his part if he acceded to the request.

MIRZA M. ISMAIL.